

THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE

# CIVIL SERVICE JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Civil Service Department, Suite 569, City County Bldg, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, TN 37902 (865) 215-2106. Web: [www.knoxvilletn.gov](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov)

4048

## Tree Service Technician

11/17/2015

(Entry-Level and Promotional)

Drug testing may be required

ENTRY-LEVEL SALARY: \$ 29,844 annually

PAY GRADE RANGE: \$ 29,844 - \$ 44,709 annually (Pay Grade 5)

*The City of Knoxville requires as a condition of employment that all newly employed individuals, former employees that have been re-hired, or employees promoted to a new classification will receive their paychecks by way of automatic direct deposit.*

Starting and promotional salaries will be determined based upon applicant qualifications and in accordance with Civil Service Merit Board Rules and Regulations.

The City of Knoxville only accepts online applications. To apply, go to [www.knoxvilletn.gov](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov). **You must complete ALL APPLICABLE SECTIONS of the application. DO NOT LEAVE SECTIONS BLANK SIMPLY BECAUSE THAT INFORMATION APPEARS ON YOUR RESUME. Doing so could result in your application being deemed incomplete.** If you need assistance submitting an application, you may visit the Civil Service office at the address listed above.

The following documents MUST be submitted online by **4:30 p.m. on: Tuesday, December 8, 2015.**

- Completed City of Knoxville Online Application
- Detailed Resume (upload and attach to your online application)

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**JOB DESCRIPTION: Please See Attached Position Description**

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### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Unless stated otherwise, applicants must possess and/or meet the following minimum requirements prior to the application deadline.

- Current City Employees may apply, but must have completed initial Civil Service probationary period and must have received a satisfactory performance rating on their last evaluation to receive promotional preference.
- High School Diploma or GED equivalent.
- Two (2) years of experience in horticultural or arboricultural operations that includes tree maintenance, rigging/climbing trees, and operating equipment necessary to perform tree maintenance duties.
- Valid Class B Tennessee Commercial Driver's License is required.
- One (1) year of experience in supervising tree crew or individuals.
- Applicant must have an ISA Certified Tree Worker Certification as an Aerial Lift Specialist or Climber Specialist or be a Certified SPRAT Technician. Applicant must become an ISA Certified Arborist or TCIA Certified Tree Safety Professional within 12 months of hire and maintain certification as a condition of continued employment.
- Applicant must be willing to train in and maintain CPR and First Aid Training.

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### EXAMINATION

The selection procedure for this position will consist of a Training and Experience Questionnaire (45% of final score) and a Written Examination (55% of final score). The written test will include sections on Communication Skills; Tree Trimming (removal methods); Safety (around utilities/within trees); Tree Pruning & Removal (per ISA/safety standards); Equipment & Tool Maintenance; and Tree Type/Species Identification (stages of decline & hazardous parts removal).

*Note: Background checks will be conducted.*

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/DRUG FREE WORKPLACE**

**The City of Knoxville does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, religion, age, veteran status, disability, gender identity, genetic information, or sexual orientation in employment opportunities.**

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**  
**City of Knoxville**

<b>Class Title:</b> Tree Service Technician	<b>Working Title:</b> same	<b>PCN:</b>
	<b>Incumbent:</b> vacant	<b>Created:</b> 10/20/2015

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

Under general supervision, this position requires skilled level work in the care, trimming, and removal of trees. This position is a crew leader over the tree crew and will be responsible for the ensuring the safety of the crew while performing work. This position would also assist with the operation of the bucket truck, but is primarily responsible for having the knowledge and skills needed for the proper use of climbing with ropes, knots, climber hooks, carabineers, and any other specialty rigging device used for safe removal of trees or limbs.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

Works as part of a crew pruning dead, broken, misshapen, interfering and undesired tree parts according to ISA Standards using handsaws, power chainsaws and other specialty and common tools and equipment used in the forestry trade.

Is primarily responsible for the proper rigging of trees with ropes, knots, climber hooks, carabiners, and any other specialty rigging device used for safe removal and lowering of tree parts with ropes as necessary according to ANSI and industry standards.

Operates and assists with bucket truck control in tree pruning and removal performed from an aerial lift bucket truck.

Responds to storm damage calls when trees are blocking City streets, sidewalks, or other access to public property or causing other safety related issues.

Is responsible for the safety of the crew while on the job site (i.e. sets up traffic diversion devices and signage to gain access to and isolate work zones, understands exit routes and proper safe distance from felling trees, understands proper rigging when working aloft, and wearing proper personal protective equipment (PPE)).

Communicates with other crew members via a job briefing to discuss the plan for executing tasks and work orders and to determine potential hazards and obstacles, such as utilities, pedestrians, vehicles, structures, traffic or other equipment that could affect the safe execution of their duties.

Coordinates or directs other semi-skilled workers with oversight of the work area with procedures established by supervisors.

Cuts down trees into sections for loading, removal, or other pieces/parts as directed.

Performs other Construction/Horticulture duties as requested.

Loads, transports, and unloads trees, equipment and supplies from vehicles.

Sharpens hand tools using a grinding tool, hand file, or other device as needed to ensure safe working condition and performs preventative maintenance on chainsaws and other equipment as needed.

Performs preventative maintenance on chainsaws and other equipment as needed.

Keeps work area free of debris as needed.

Performs arboricultural practices utilizing proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and other industry safety standards and ensures and directs other semi-skilled workers to utilize proper safety equipment.

Performs other related work as required.

**MARGINAL FUNCTIONS**

None indicated

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

Working knowledge of practices, techniques, procedures, methods, tools and equipment utilized in tree pruning and removal operations according to ISA standards and the occupational hazards and safety precautions of the work.

Knowledge and ability to conduct tree related maintenance and work using an aerial lift truck or similar vehicle.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES (Continued)**

Knowledge of and the ability to acquire more skills in the use and care of ropes, knots, rigging, chainsaws, and other specialty and commonly used tools and equipment.

Ability to work at heights, sometimes in precarious positions, and physical strength and agility sufficient to permit the climbing of trees, ladders, and ropes.

Ability to work in adverse weather conditions.

Ability to learn tree trimming and removal methods and practice same.

Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions and communicate with other crew members.

Ability to do routine maintenance on pruning and forestry equipment.

Ability to identify tree types and species, and determine various stages of decline as it relates to safely removing hazardous parts of trees.

Ability to do an aerial rescue using ropes within a tree.

Ability to recognize and have working knowledge of basic arboricultural hardware including cables, braces, and lightning protection systems.

Ability to recognize and have working knowledge of utilities and working within trees around utilities.

## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

High School Diploma or GED equivalent.

Two (2) years of experience in horticultural or arboricultural operations that includes tree maintenance, rigging/climbing trees, and operating equipment necessary to perform tree maintenance duties.

Valid Class B Tennessee Commercial Driver's License is required.

One (1) year of experience in supervising tree crew or individuals.

Applicant must have an ISA Certified Tree Worker Certification as an Aerial Lift Specialist or Climber Specialist or be a Certified SPRAT Technician. Applicant must become an ISA Certified Arborist or TCIA Certified Tree Safety Professional within 12 months of hire and maintain certification as a condition of continued employment.

Applicant must maintain CPR and First Aid Training.